

HABS, PA, 51-PHILA, 304-

PENNSYLVANIA
STATE

Philadelphia (51)
COUNTY

PHILADELPHIA
TOWN or VICINITY

5p
1d*

STRUCTURE BELMONT MANSION

(PA-1649)

See Supp. Card File

** Caption page*

Belmont Mansion Dr., Fairmount Park. Brick and rubble with stone trim, approx. 40' (three-bay front) x 35' with attached one and two-story buildings, three stories (originally two), hipped roof with balustrade projecting center pavilion with gable, open porch on three sides; central great hall plan, notable interior details. Two-story

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(PA-1649)

gambrel roofed rubble cottage W of mansion built before 1742; semi-octagonal bay added ca. 1744. Two-story gable-roof house at SW cor. of mansion built 1745. Mansion built ca. 1755; rear stair tower, front porticoed porch built ca. 1760; ornamental ceiling of great hall installed ca. 1762; third story, lattice porch across front built before 1860; porch extended around sides after 1867. Stairway of 1745 house removed 1874; octagonal bay at S end removed 1876; interiors rehabilitated 1926; one-story brick building at W cor. of rubble cottage built after 1931,

(PA-1649)

demolished 1972. Fine example of evolutionary growth of a country house with notable early decorative plaster work. Country house of William Peters, lawyer, jurist, Register of Admiralty 1744-71, and his son Richard Peters, agriculturist, Commissioner of War for Continental Congress 1776-81, member of Pennsylvania Assembly 1788-92, noted federal jurist 1792-1828. Acquired by Fairmount Park Commission, City of Philadelphia, 1867. 2 ext. photos (1931), 3 int. photos (1926).

Card Prepared 1979.